(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission had requested the Department of Information Technology (DIT) to coordinate an initiative to provide a Unique Identification which could be used for monitoring various Schemes and Programmes. The project is at an initial stage and currently a study is being conducted to recommend the processes in this regard. Simultaneously work has also been initiated for making ready the data base which would be needed for the generation of the Unique Identification.

Offers made by MTNL

1045. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of offers MTNL has recently made to subscribers on the occasion of Diwali festival and afterwards;

(b) the impact each of these offers have made on the subscribers;

(c) whether it is a fact that the impact of these offers has been negligible; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The details of offers MTNL had recently made to subscribers on the occasion of Diwali festival and afterwards, in Delhi and Mumbai are given as under:

MTNL Delhi:

(i) MTNL Delhi had waived off broadband booking charges Dolphin activation charges and Garuda Mobile activation charges from 16.10.2006 to 15.11.2006.

(ii) Re-launching of promotional plan 1+1 of basic service of MTNL from 5.12.2006 for three months.

(iii) Promotional offer for broadband connection from 7.12.2006 to 31.12.2006.

(iv) Promotional offer of Dolphin Jeewan Saathi from 26.12.2006 to 25.1.2007 and further extended to 25.3.2007.

(v) Benefit in booking of extended MTNL landline from 1.1.2007 for 90 days.

MTNL Mumbai

(i) Monthly rental of One India Plan was reduced from Rs. 299/- to Rs. 180/- *w.e.f.* 1.11.2006.

(ii) Tariff from landline and WLL to its own network at Mumbai has been changed to Rs. 1.20/180 sec.

(iii) Tariff from landline/WLL to MTNL Delhi landline/WLL has been reduced from Rs. 1.20/30 sec. to Rs. 1.20/180 sec.

(iv) STD tariff of landline/WLL has been reduced from Rs. 2.40/min to Rs. 2.00/min.

(v) Calls within CDMA 2000 IX system has been reduced to Rs. 0.10/min.

(vi) Only incoming plan for landline with Rs. 150/- rent per months has been made regular.

(vii) With effect from 19.10.2006, customer of 2000 IX network were permitted unlimited use of internet on payment of Rs. 299/-.

(viii) Unlimited SMS on MTNL mobile network with a monthly rent of Rs. 30/month on 20.10.2006.

(b) The impact has been very positive and encouraging. Consequently, there is heavy demand for Broadband connection and mobile connections.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (b) above.

Stagnation of rural tele-density

1046. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether rural telephony is not catching up as targeted, resulting in rural tele-density stagnating around 2 per cent against a projected 25 per cent by 2010;